

Belfry ATC Students Honored as Members of 2003 Division AA State Championship Football Team

It's a first in the KY Tech system of schools. Twenty-one carpentry, electricity, machine tool technology and welding technology students enrolled at the Belfry Area Technology Center (ATC) are proud members of the 2003 Belfry Pirates State Championship Division AA Football Team. The championship game between the Belfry Pirates and Elizabethtown Panthers was held December 5, 2003 at Papa Johns Stadium in Louisville - final score was Pirates 33 - Panthers 27.

Commissioner Emil Jezik, who was a former Marshall Co. High School football coach, recently took time to recognize each player during a unique ceremony and reception for all KY Tech Belfry ATC students. The idea was to honor all the KY Tech students in front of their peers. Special "KY Tech Ambassador of Goodwill" framed certificates were given to each player as an acknowledgment of their efforts.



(Far right) Commissioner Emil Jezik, Pirates Coach Philip Haywood and Assistant Coach Jonathan Bogar (far left) pose with Belfry ATC football students.

In his remarks to the group of over 300 students, Jezik congratulated the athletes on their victory.

“You have learned to work hard on the field to achieve success. From all indications, you have also worked hard in your technical classes,” said Jezik. “Working together as a team and learning to perfect skills have won you a championship football title, but you can also perfect the skills you are learning at the area technology center and become successful in life. Skills and dedication are two ingredients that will always put you on a winning team.”

In addition to honoring the football players, the commissioner provided each of the cheerleaders and both statisticians with a “You Make A Difference” KY Tech blue ribbon. The cheerleaders recently won the 2004 State Runner-Up in the Co-ed Cheerleading Competition.



DTE Commissioner Emil Jezik addresses Belfry ATC students during special recognition ceremony.

David Jones



Phillip Varney



Varsity Cheerleaders with
Commissioner Emil Jezik

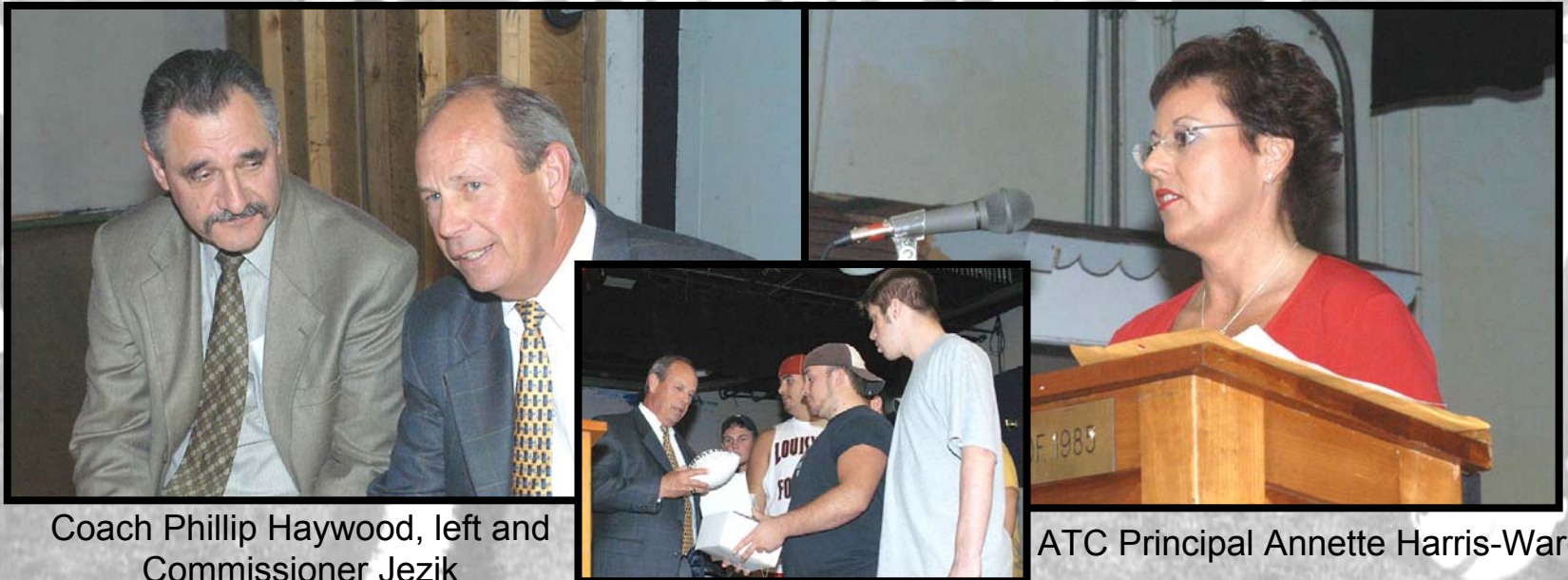
Belfry Co. ATC Principal Annette Harris-Ward was instrumental in providing information regarding her ATC students. She has been a “fan in the stands” all season long and wanted to make sure the ATC students received the recognition they deserved. In addition to being proud of all the kids, Harris-Ward has worked extremely hard over the past two years to create the right climate between the ATC and high school.

“Head Football Coach Philip Haywood in his role as Belfry H.S. counselor has been a driving force in steering his players into the area technology center, says Harris-Ward. “He understands the value of technical education and cares about how these students perform. I’m impressed with his coaching skills as well as his counseling skills. We have a wonderful relationship with the high school and this ceremony was planned with their help.”

Two members of the ATC staff are also heavily involved in the district's football team. Jonathan Bogar, Belfry ATC welding instructor and former student, serves as assistant coach to Head Coach Philip Haywood. Paul Williamson, machine tool technology instructor, is the official "football chains-keeper" on the sideline.

"These students have been very easy to teach because they are willing to learn here in my welding class as well as on the field," says Bogar. "When I played football, I was the only player on my team attending the ATC. Times have changed."

"A majority of the students on the team are in my machine tool technology class. Each of these kids has been part of a winning team and they work well together," says Williamson. "It's kind of the same type of situation in my classroom. We all work together and the students work hard at learning the skills we are trying to teach them."



Coach Phillip Haywood, left and
Commissioner Jezik

ATC Principal Annette Harris-Ward

Player's Roster

Zack Blackburn – machine tool
Tyler Bostic – carpentry
Mitch Case – machine tool
Aaron Chapman – welding
Tommy Church – carpentry
Jordan Clevenger – machine tool
Josh Cullop – machine tool
Daniel Dotson – machine tool
Ronnie Edwards – machine tool
Justin Gooslin – machine tool
Michael Hackney – welding
Richard Harris – machine tool
Clifton Hatfield – machine tool
Paul Howard – machine tool
David Jones – machine tool
Phillip Varney – carpentry,
machine tool, welding
Shane Varney – welding
Thomas Varney – welding
Arlin Reed – electricity
James Robinette – machine tool
Matthew Smith – machine tool

Individual Awards and Recognition

David Jones scored all four touchdowns in the championship game and ran for 203 yards.

Phillip Varney has received a full scholarship to Eastern Kentucky University. He was one of the football players as well as a member of the Belfry H.S. Varsity Cheerleading Squad.

Tyler Bostic has been offered a full scholarship to Campbellsville College.

Josh Cullop signed with Pikeville College and received a full scholarship.

Jordan Clevinger signed with Pikeville College and received a full scholarship.

Allstate Team

Phillip Varney
Josh Cullop

Allstate Honorable Mention

Jordan Clevinger
David Jones
Doug Howard

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